



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES COMMAND**  
**1777 HARDEE AVENUE SW**  
**FORT MCPHERSON GA 30330-1062**

**AFCG**

**FEB 14 2007**

**MEMORANDUM FOR Commanders, All FORSCOM Troop Units**

**SUBJECT: Presidents' Day Holiday Message 2007**

- 1. For eight years, General Washington led the Continental Army through the rigors of war. From the defeats in New York, the daring crossing of the Delaware River and victory in Trenton, to the hardships of Valley Forge and the ultimate triumph at Yorktown, his personal leadership and undimmed vision of a free America provided the steady, determined leadership required for victory.**
- 2. His engaged leadership and the demand for discipline and adherence to standards are attributes that are as important today as they were in 1777. Indiscipline and failure to comply with standards increases the risk of personnel injuries and damage to equipment and property, and ultimately results in mission degradation. In fact, acts of individual indiscipline were present in more than 80 percent of Forces Command (FORSCOM) accidental fatalities in FY06.**
- 3. Leader responsibilities for establishing and enforcing standards, instilling individual discipline in Soldiers, and ensuring accountability serve as the cornerstone of an effective safety program. As FORSCOM leaders, I ask each of you to strengthen your efforts, and to support and encourage subordinate leaders in their efforts to enforce standards and minimize high-risk behaviors.**
- 4. I wish each of you a happy and safe holiday as we commemorate this Presidents' Day Holiday. Remain aware; enjoy the holiday, recharge, and return ready to meet the rigors of our profession.**

**JOSEPH F. PETERSON**  
**Lieutenant General, US Army**  
**Deputy Commanding General/**  
**Chief of Staff**